

Hebbal in Mysore State. The caterpillar while boring causes dead heart in young plants and chaffy earheads in mature plants.

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18. OCCURRENCE OF PESTS ON KODO MILLET (*PASPALUM SCROBICULATUM*)

The kodo millet is one of the minor crops, cultivated over an area of about 2.42 lakh hectares in Tamil Nadu. The crop is raised during rainy season on poor soils. Generally, the crop is free from any pest or disease.

The crop raised during 1970 at the Millet Breeding Station of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University was unusually infested with the following new pests.

(a) Semi-looper (*Azasia rubricans*)—(Family Noctuideae).

The pest was noticed during the flowering phase of the crop and the caterpillars were feeding on the flowers. The damage to the crop was not however severe since the flowering phase was near completion.

(b) Leaf roller (*Cnaphalocrocis medinalis*).

The incidence of this pest was observed in the flowering stage of the crop. The extent of attack on a few varieties of the crop was assessed and the data are presented below:—

No.	Selections	% of attacked plants
1.	PS. 197.	6.8
2.	PS. 192.	7.4
3.	PS. 187.	9.1
4.	PS. 196.	9.7
5.	PS. 175.	13.3

The percentage of attack among the varieties ranged from 6.8 to 13.3.

Based on these preliminary observations, the extent of damage in yield of grains has to be investigated in future.

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19. SYSTEMATICS OF INDIAN RHOPALIDAE (HEMIPTERA)

Earlier workers disagreed upon the rank and the name of this group of insects. It had been considered a subfamily of the family Coreidae under the name Corizinae for several years. Recently, Harris (1942), Schaefer (1965) and Chopra (1967) have pointed out that this group deserves the status of a family and the correct name should be Rhopalidae, Amyot & Serville rather than Corizidae, Douglas & Scott. The Indian representatives of this family have been described and listed by Distant (1902 & 1918) in the subfamily Corizinae. Distant (1902) followed the earlier classification of the group and has indicated that the Indian species belong to two divisions: Corizaria, Stal and Serinetharia, Stal. In 1902 he included four species of a genus *Corizus* in the division Corizaria and six species of the genus *Serinetha* in the division Serinetharia. In 1918 he added six new species to his genus *Corizus* and two additional genera: *Agraphopus* Stal, and *Therapha* Amyot & Serville each containing two species. According to the most recent classification (Chopra 1967) the family is divided into two subfamilies: Rhopalinae, Amyot & Serville and Serinethinae, Stal. The former is considered to be composed of six tribes: Niesthrini, Chopra, Rhopalini, Amyot & Serville, Chorosomini, Douglas & Scott, Harmostini Stal, Maccavithini, Chopra and Corizomorphini, Chopra while the latter included only one group. The Indian species of this family belong to the subfamily Serinethinae and the tribes Niesthrini, Rhopalini and Chorosomini of the subfamily Rhopalinae.

Among Serinethinae, *Leptocoris* Hahn has priority over *Serinetha* Spinola. The species listed by Distant under *Serinetha*, therefore, pertain to *Leptocoris*. Gross (1960) synonymized *dallasi* Dohrn with *augur* F., while Chopra (1971) has described a new species *L. arorai* from south India. The genus *Leptocoris* as recognized now contains nine species and three subspecies from India.

Among the subfamily Rhopalinae, *Corizus* Fallén belongs to the tribe Rhopalini and has priority over *Therapha* Amyot & Serville. The